



JOHN ENGLER, Governor

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

*"Better Service for a Better Environment"*

HOLLISTER BUILDING, PO BOX 30473, LANSING MI 48909-7973

INTERNET: [www.deq.state.mi.us](http://www.deq.state.mi.us)

**RUSSELL J. HARDING**, Director

REPLY TO:

LABORATORY SECTION  
DRINKING WATER & RADIOLOGICAL  
PROTECTION DIVISION  
3350 N MARTIN L KING JR BLVD  
PO BOX 30270  
LANSING MI 48909-7770

August 17, 2000

FROM: George L. Krisztian, Laboratory Certification Officer

SUBJECT: Recent Developments in the Lab Certification Program

It's time again for another update regarding the Drinking Water Certification Program. This update will cover the following issues:

- Proficiency Test Scheduling
- Notification of Changes
- Reporting of Results
- Response Deadlines and Certified Mail
- Internet Resources

**PROFICIENCY TEST SCHEDULING:**

In order to meet the deadline for the October PT, laboratories will need to place their order during the first half of August. It appears that the majority of laboratories have adjusted to this schedule as is evidenced by the decreasing number of calls that this office has been getting regarding PT Samples. Failure to meet the deadline by a week or two will not be considered a serious deviation, but does require notification to this office.

For your convenience, here again is a list of the approved PT Providers.

**CO**

[Environmental Resource Associates \(ERA\)](#), Arvada, CO [200386- 0]

Phone: (303) 431-8454

**CT**

[Absolute Standards, Inc.](#), Hamden, CT [200390- 0]

Phone: (203) 281-2917

[AccuStandard, Inc.](#), New Haven, CT [200389- 0]

Phone: (203) 786-5290 X102

Laboratory Directors  
Laboratory Data Coordinators

2

August 17, 2000

District Supervisors

## LA

[Chrisope Technologies, A Division of Remel](#), Lake Charles, LA [200388- 0]

Phone: (318) 479-1000 X236

## NJ

[Protocol Analytical Supplies, Inc.](#), Middlesex, NJ [200395- 0]

Phone: (732) 627-0500

[Spex Certiprep Inc.](#), Metuchen, NJ [200392- 0]

Phone: (732) 549-7144 X418

## NY

[NYS DOH Environmental Laboratory Approval Program](#), Albany, NY [200387- 0]

Phone: (518) 485-5570

## OH

[Analytical Products Group, Inc.](#), Belpre, OH [200384- 0]

Phone: (740) 423-4200

## RI

[Ultra Scientific, Inc.](#), North Kingston, RI [200379- 0]

Phone: (401) 294-9400

More information about these vendors can be obtained at the following website:

<http://ts.nist.gov/ts/htdocs/210/214/214.htm>

## **NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES:**

There has been an increasing number of laboratories that have not been notifying this office of changes as specified in the Manual for the Certification of Laboratories Analyzing Drinking Water. It is important that laboratories notify us of these changes so that we can keep our records current. Some examples of changes that require notification are change in name, address, ownership, contact person, instrumentation, and key personnel. Please remember that it is the responsibility of the laboratory to make the notification. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the downgrading of a laboratory's certification.

There have been several instances where we have been unable to communicate with a laboratory because this notification has not been made. If we cannot communicate with your facility then we have to assume that your facility is no longer in operation, in which case your laboratory may be taken off the certified lab list.

## **REPORTING OF RESULTS:**

Laboratories must ensure that they are reporting results in accordance with the July 1999 memo that was sent from this office. In short, laboratories may only report compliance data for which they have certification. Laboratories must also properly show which parameters have been subcontracted and to what lab the work was subcontracted. The Laboratory ID number must accompany the report and include the subcontract lab's ID number where applicable. Failure to comply with these requirements leaves the laboratory open to both civil and criminal penalties.

## **RESPONSE DEADLINES AND CERTIFIED MAIL:**

As many laboratories may have noticed, this office has instituted the practice of using certified mail when sending time sensitive materials. This was done in order to accurately set the clock for deadlines. The clock starts on the date that the laboratory receives the dated materials. If you receive a certified letter from this office make sure that you open it immediately. There have been a number of laboratories that faced having their certification lapse because they failed to make the deadlines. At the very least the laboratory will need to contact this office by phone prior to the expiration date on the letter to request an extension. Extensions will be granted providing that there is adequate justification.

## **INTERNET RESOURCES:**

We are now in the process of setting up our homepage. We will send out an additional announcement once we have completed the design. We will be posting a number of materials such as regulatory links, the lab cert manual, certified lab lists, copies of all of the memos that this office has been sending out, and hopefully much more! Please contact us if you have any suggestions regarding what you would like on the site. Our goal is to try to provide all of the information that you need in order to stay in regulatory compliance.

## **E-MAIL:**

If you have an e-mail address, please send it to us. Once we have compiled a list, we will use it to send out notices. We will continue to use standard mail, but those with an e-mail address will receive this information sooner. My e-mail address is krisztig@state.mi.us.

If you have questions regarding this information, please contact me at 517-335-8812.